

Indian Affairs  
School Files

(RG 10, Volume 6350)

File 753-1, part 1	Edmonton - Industrial School - General Administration. 1919 - 1937
File 753-2, part 1	Edmonton - Residential School - Quarterly Returns. 1941 - 1950
File 753-5, part 1	Edmonton - Industrial School - Building Maintenance - Accounts. 1923 - 1925
File 753-5, part 2	Edmonton - Industrial School - Building Maintenance - Accounts. 1925 - 1929



753-1 464-1

NO.

Department of Indian Affairs

19

Edmonton  
Industrial School

General Correspondence

103

222032

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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REV. JAMES ENDICOTT, D.D.  
GENERAL SECRETARY FOREIGN MISSIONS  
REV. JESSE H. ARNUP, B.A.  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOREIGN MISSIONS  
G. WATSON  
TREASURER

116818-1

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH,  
CANADA

GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS  
WESLEY BUILDINGS: 299 QUEEN ST. WEST  
TORONTO, ONT.

CABLE ADDRESS: "WESLEYANA, TORONTO"

REV. C. E. MANNING  
GENERAL SECRETARY HOME MISSIONS  
REV. A. LLOYD SMITH, M.A., B.D.  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOME MISSIONS  
REV. F. C. STEPHENSON, M.D.  
SECRETARY  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S FORWARD MOVEMENT

April 24th, 1919.

522194

*Mr. J. B. Scott*  
*see me*  
*cc*  
Dear Mr. Scott:

*2 Copies*

I presented the matter of change of site of the Red Deer Institute to Edmonton to the Executive of our Board yesterday. They were unanimous in endorsing the scheme and authorized me to continue negotiations with the Department in view of making the change. The Board is agreeable to giving up the site at Red Deer and the ranch at Morley towards helping the scheme financially. Of course it is understood in doing so that the interests of our educational work at Morley shall stand on its own merits and that this sale of the ranch will in no way prejudice our educational interests in Southern Alberta. I hope that the Department will find the Red Deer farm may be purchased by the military authorities for work that they require in caring for our returned soldiers.

As soon as I return to Brandon I will communicate with your commissioner, Mr. Graham, and try to arrange for a suitable date to accompany him to Edmonton to look over all prospective sites.

Yours sincerely,

TF/M

*T. Furness*

Duncan C. Scott, Esquire,  
Deputy Superintendent General,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
O T T A W A.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 1C, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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Rev. T. Ferrier  
Superintendent of  
Methodist Indian Schools and Hospitals  
in Canada



Brandon, Man., June 4th, 19 19.

524019

Mr. Duncan C. Scott,  
Deputy Superintendent General,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Scott,-

I have just returned from Alberta. While there I attended the Conference. The situation at Red Deer Institute has reached a crisis and the question of changing the site to Edmonton must be decided in the near future. This was the unanimous conviction of a committee appointed to look into the situation. Dr. Endicott, Secretary of the Foreign Department of our Mission Board and myself were appointed to interview the Minister of Indian Affairs. Dr. Chown would have been on this committee had it been possible for him to attend. As he is going to Newfoundland this was not possible until after the 10th of July. The date that will suit Dr. Endicott and myself would be Friday, the 20th or Monday the 23rd. Would it be possible for you to arrange for us to meet the Minister on either of those dates? You will understand that I am assuming that you will be present too at the interview. This of course from my point of view is a necessity. Address your reply to me at the Methodist Conference, Winnipeg, and if the strike is still on it might be well to send a copy to Brandon so that I would be sure to receive it.

Yours sincerely,

*T. Ferrier*  
Industrial School, Brandon.

TF/GF

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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Rev. T. Ferrier  
Superintendent of  
Methodist Indian Schools and Hospitals  
in Canada



Brandon, Man., June 5<sup>th</sup> 1919

524019

Dear Mr. Scott

Since writing you yesterday  
as a date to meet the Minister I  
find that Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> or Tuesday  
24<sup>th</sup> will suit rather than  
Friday 20<sup>th</sup>. If possible arrange  
for 23<sup>rd</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> you would  
confer a favor by wire message  
in reply. G. Methodist Conf.  
Winnipeg. Mr. Edinott will be at  
the Conf.

Yours sincerely  
T. Ferrier

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(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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*M. L. L. L.*



DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
CANADA

OFFICE OF THE  
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL  
OTTAWA

June 9, 1919.

Memorandum

Honourable Mr. Meighen,-

524017

I am in receipt of a communication from Rev. Dr. Ferrier, of Brandon, Man., in which he states that he and Dr. Endicott, Secretary of the Foreign Department of the Mission Board of the Methodist Church, are very anxious to see you, and that either Monday the 23rd or Tuesday the 24th of June would be convenient for them to be here. They desire to discuss questions concerning the future of Indian schools in which they are interested. I would be glad to know if you could see them on either of the above dates that I may inform Rev. Mr. Ferrier.

*Expect to be here  
See them  
until after they  
deem necessary*

*Duncan*

Deputy Superintendent General.

*See*

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(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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116818-1

file

June 11, 1919.

Dear Mr. Ferrier,-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your communications of the 4th and 5th of June, with reference to the desire of yourself and Dr. Endicott to have a conference with the Hon. Mr. Meighen, regarding questions concerning the future of the Indian schools in which you are interested. In reply I beg to say that the Minister expects to be here on Monday, the 23rd, and Tuesday, the 24th of June, but, as you will, of course, understand he is extremely occupied and his time is pretty fully taken up. He wishes, however, that you will see me first, and, after that, if it is deemed necessary, he will grant you an interview.

Rev. T. Ferrier,  
Principal,  
Brandon Industrial School,  
Brandon, Man.

Yours very truly,

Deputy Superintendent General.

Copy also  
sent to  
W.P.G.

W.P.G.

Duncan Chitt

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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The Superintendent of Indian Education received a communication from Rev. Joseph Woodsworth, Principal of the Red Deer Institute, re the financial situation, number of pupils in attendance and other matters of vital importance in connection with the Red Deer Institute. On account of the crisis that has been reached in connection with the work at Red Deer, it was thought advisable to have a conference of a few who were directly interested and Mr. Woodsworth. This was done at the Alberta Conference in Calgary. Mr. Woodsworth presented the case to the following and his presentation is herewith appended.

*The General Superintendent*  
~~Rev. S. D. Chown, D.D.,~~ *The* General Secretary of Foreign Missions, and the following Superintendents - Rev. T. C. Buchanan, D.D., Rev. Thos. Powell, Rev. Arthur Barner and Rev. T. Ferrier, and the Hon. W. H. Cushing. After hearing Mr. Woodsworth's presentation of the case the opinion prevailed that our educational work for our Indian people in Northern Alberta would be better served by changing the site from Red Deer to EDMONTON. As a result of this Conference the Secretary of the Foreign Department and the Superintendent of Indian Education on June 23rd interviewed Mr. Dunsmuir C. Scott, Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs. Mr. Scott received us very cordially and sympathetically. He concurred in our presentation of the case and is in hearty sympathy with the proposed change of site from RED DEER to EDMONTON, but pointed out that no money could be secured by Vote of Parliament at its present session in as much as the estimates and supplementary estimates were all completed and Parliament would be closing in a few days. He, however, assured us that he had \$60,000 in the Supplementary Estimates <sup>for plant on our Missions which</sup> and if passed by <sup>amount</sup> Parliament would be at the disposal of the Methodist Church and that we as representatives of the Church would be at liberty as far as the Government was concerned to say in what direction and for what

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA



purpose this \$60,000 should be used. Its present proposal is that it should be used for small buildings required at Muncney, Brandon, Norway House, Coqualeetza and some Day Schools on Reserves. All of which are greatly needed. At the same time we are of the opinion that the general interests of our entire work would be better served by the expenditure of this \$60,000 for our educational work this year in making the change from Red Deer to Edmonton <sup>ed</sup>assurative. If we decided to expend it in the purchase of a site and the commencement of a building in Edmonton, Mr. Scott would heartily recommend the expenditure of this \$60,000 as we suggested, to the Minister. It being understood that the Minister must give his sanction to the whole scheme.

We also discussed the property at MOREEY which consists of some fifteen hundred acres of ranching land upon which the Methodist Church erected the Mc Dougall Orphanage some thirty years ago. There is also a building that has been used for class room purposes. The other outbuildings are not of much value. This land is owned by the Government. There is also a section and three-quarters of land in connection with the Red Deer Institute. We proposed that both of these properties should be sold and that the Methodist Church should receive credit for the same and the proceeds be put into the new plant at Edmonton. Mr. Scott assured us that this would have to meet the approval of Parliament but that he would strongly recommend that this be done.

We recommended to Mr. Scott that a Commission consisting of representatives from the Indian Department and of the Methodist Church visit the following Reserves - HOBENA, WHITE FISH LAKE, GOOD FISH LAKE, SADDLE LAKE, WHITE WHALE LAKE. These form a Constituency that would be served by a school situated in Edmonton, Edmonton being geographically in the centre.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
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CANADA



And, that this Commission secure if possible the endorsement of the Indian people through their Councils and others interested, to the proposed new school and a written promise that they will support the school if built in the vicinity of Edmonton.

And, that this Commission further be instructed and empowered to select the new site. This received the approval of Mr. Scott.

From the representations made by Mr. Woodsworth, the principal of Red Deer School, we recommend that the school be closed with the dismissal of the children for holidays. We also recommend that if there are orphan children who have no place to go that they be transferred to Brandon until the new school is built. Mr. Scott assures us that this will meet with the approval of the Department and that the Department will pay the cost of transportation. We also recommend that Mr. Woodsworth keep the farm going and ~~retain~~ <sup>retain</sup> such members of the staff as will be required to gather and secure the harvest and that he spend all the time possible during the Conference year in visiting the Reserves for the purpose of popularising the scheme with the Indians as much as possible.

ALL OF WHICH IS RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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COPY.

Industrial School,  
Red Deer, Alberta.  
June 5th, 1919.

Rev. James Endicott, D.D.  
Methodist Mission Rooms,  
Toronto, Ontario.

Dear Doctor Endicott:-

The following is the statement or report which you requested me to send to you. There are a number of angles from which the problem may be approached. I shall try to present them all, and relate them to the main issue. They may be taken up under the following heads.

- (a) The Red Deer problem past, and present.
- (b) Attendance.
- (c) Plant.
- (d) The Edmonton proposition.
- (e) Financial
- (f) Temporary closing of the school.

The problem we are at present facing in regard to the future of the Red Deer Industrial Institute is by no means a matter of recent growth. It is the result of the development of events of years past. Things have now reached a climax. For a number of years workers among the Indians of Alberta have realized that this school has not been fulfilling its function as an educational institution for the Indians. In the FIRST place it has acquired a bad name among the Indians through years of mismanagement. Second it has been in the wrong place from the first, being too far from the homes of the Indian. THIRD it has not been touching as it should the life of the Indian and more than once the lack of pupils has been a menace to the prosperity of the Institute. About ten years ago a special commission recommended that the school be closed, and boarding schools be established on the reserves. On the strength of this recommendation, which to the Indian amounted to a promise, the Red Deer school was filled to its capacity. Seven years ago the school reached its maximum attendance. At this time Mr. Barner resigned as principal when he found it impossible to carry out his program, and I was appointed in his place and carried out the Industrial School plans. For a time, in hopes that the Boarding Schools might yet be established on the reserves, the Indians continued to send their children, and for two years a splendid attendance was maintained. However at the end of this time the Government definitely rejected the proposals of the Mission Board and decided to continue the old policy. As soon as this was known to the Methodist Indians of Alberta, a meeting was held at Hobbema at which it was decided to boycott the Red Deer School.

#### ATTENDANCE.

For two years following this decision not a single child was admitted to the Institute. Since then a few have come in but many of the have come under compulsion. At the end of June 1919 we shall have but forty children in residence at the school. It will thus be seen that the

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
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boycott has been effective, and that in spite of every effort to maintain the attendance. The result of this reduced enrollment makes further operations most difficult and with little hope of improvement. This applies particularly to the household work where next year there will be only twelve girls old and young to do the work of the institution. Under our present system this will be almost impossible.

BUILDINGS - In connection with the problem of policy and attendance has been the matter of plant. For a good many years it has been a recognized fact that the buildings have been entirely insufficient for the requirements of the institution. Only sufficient has been spent year by year to keep them from falling to pieces. Of course during the war we realized that extensive repairs were impossible and the principal of your school all during this time of tension refrained from making requests for repairs or buildings other than were absolutely necessary. This policy was followed regarding expenditure by both Government and Church. Lack of accommodation in various ways has now become a decided hindrance to our work. The buildings are in such a condition, and the whole plant so dilapidated that it seriously affects the morale of our school life, and enormously increases the difficulty of operation. And not only has it retarded our work but the General Board today is paying hundreds if not thousands of dollars because of this condition of the Government plant.

With the closing of the war and the necessity and probability of extensive changes the question of future policy again arose. I felt that in view of the past failure of Red Deer in attendance, location, and appeal to the Indian, it was questionable if it was right for the Missionary Society to allow the Indian Department to put large sums of money into this plant without first a clear understanding of the whole situation. It must be understood that to make the plant at all suitable to the management, not only must the main buildings be entirely rebuilt but the whole arrangements of outbuildings and stables must be taken into consideration. Then came the thought; even though the Government gives us a modern plant we will be no nearer our end in serving the Indian. The school will still be a drag, largely because of its position, the increasing protest from the Indian is "it is too far to send our children".

#### THE EDMONTON PROPOSITION

With this came an idea for a solution of the problem, at least in part, namely, transferring the institution to Edmonton. This move would place the school almost exactly in the centre of our Indian Constituency and bring us more intimately in touch with them. The proposition met with hearty approval by all who were interested including the General Board, and the Department. Since making the suggestion, Mr. Ferrier and I have made selections of possible sites near Edmonton, and negotiations are in progress to make purchase of land and complete arrangements with the Government.

#### THE IMMEDIATE CLOSING OF RED DEER -

Since making the above suggestion, matters of finance, attendance staff, and policy, has become so acute, that I felt that immediate action must be taken to meet the situation. With this in view I recommended that the school be closed 30th June 1919 to be reopened as as soon as possible in Edmonton. My reasons for this suggestion are as follows:

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
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(1) Financial - It will save the Missionary Society about \$10,000.00.

(2) It will give me, as principal, an opportunity of doing valuable work on the reserves in the interests of the school during the interim. It will also enable me to give attention to the closing of this school (which is not a small task) and also be on hand to keep in close touch with the establishing of the new institution in Edmonton.

(3) If we close immediately we shall retain the initiative in regard to the guidance of school affairs. Otherwise this initiative will pass from our hands to that of the Indians, and this is not desirable. This last reason seems to me to be the strongest of all. Not even a large money grant would suffice to take the place of loss of initiative. I cannot emphasize this point too strongly in its application to this problem. To me, looking at it from every standpoint, we will gain much by closing at once. This school has had its day and without further blinking at facts we should insist upon new and proper conditions in operating our school.

FINANCIAL - At the end of June 1919 we shall have a deficit of about \$5000.00 which the Missionary Society will have to meet in some way. Besides this, this institution, if it is operated next year will cost the Missionary Society between six and seven thousand dollars. If the school is closed nearly this entire amount of between ten and twelve thousand dollars will be saved.

This in brief is the position of the school both past and present. There are so many phases of the question that are familiar to me that it is somewhat difficult to present them in a formal manner and in their proper light and relationship. However this short statement may be of value to you.

As principal now, for six and a half years, I have watched developments very closely, and have endeavored to deal with problems as they presented themselves. I believe that with my experience behind me I have a pretty fair grasp of the essential needs of this institution and of our Indian work in Alberta. From time to time I have advised the authorities both Church and Government of the conditions which exist so that the present situation is not new. I have been planning for the new school in Edmonton and am ready to go into this new scheme with energy and enthusiasm. If in dealing with these matters you require further information or detail or my presence, I shall be glad to serve the Missionary Society in the interests of the Indian.

J. F. WOODSWORTH.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
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The Executive at its last meeting appointed the Foreign  
Secretary and the Superintendent of Indian Education as a Committee  
to form a basis upon which we would take over the management from the  
Government of the hospital at Norway House. After interviewing  
Mr. Scott, the Deputy Superintendent General we are of the opinion  
that in as much as the Government is willing to assume the entire  
financial obligation, ~~and xxxxxxxxxx the opinion that~~ this proposition  
should be deferred.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 1C, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
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116818-1

REV. JAMES ENDICOTT, D.D.  
GENERAL SECRETARY FOREIGN MISSIONS

REV. JESSE H. ARNUP, B.A.  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOREIGN MISSIONS

MR. W. G. WATSON  
TREASURER

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
OF THE METHODIST CHURCH,  
CANADA

GENERAL BOARD OF MISSIONS

WESLEY BUILDING: 299 QUEEN ST. WEST  
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOME MISSIONS

REV. F. C. STEPHENSON, M.D.  
SECRETARY  
YOUNG PEOPLE'S FORWARD MOVEMENT

[Brandon, Man.]

524607

June 26th, 1919.



*file return to D.M.*

Mr. Duncan C. Scott,  
Deputy Superintendent General of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Mr. Scott:-

I enclose you a copy of the Report that Dr. Endicott and I are submitting to our Board re the general situation at Red Deer and the change of site to Edmonton, including our Conference with you. I also enclose our recommendation re Norway House Hospital. These reports are accompanied by a statement that Mr. Woodsworth sent to Dr. Endicott on June 5th. You will understand that this communication is just as Dr. Endicott and I understand the situation up to the present. I trust it conveys a correct report of the interview we had with you. It is at least as we understood it.

Thanking you for the courtesy we received from you in connection with this whole matter,

Yours sincerely,

TF/SR.

*T. Service*

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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Rev. T. Ferrier  
Superintendent of  
Methodist Indian Schools and Hospitals  
Canada

116818-1

525126



Brandon, Man.

July 11th 1910.

*See Memo to  
Mundaca*

The Secretary,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Sir,-

I have been informed by Rev. Mr. Woodsworth, principal of the Red Deer Institute that he has sent the children home on holiday and he wishes to be instructed re the closing of the school with a view of dropping the work until the plant is completed on a new site at Edmonton. I would like to receive the instructions of the Department confirming such a move before advising Mr. Woodsworth.

In the report made by Dr. Endicott, Foreign Secretary and myself we suggested that a commission be appointed representing the Methodist Church and the Indian Department to visit the Reserves that form the constituency and also to select a site in the vicinity of Edmonton. I would suggest that this commission meet in Edmonton during the first week of September. Would the Department make arrangements with this in view?

Yours sincerely,

*T. Ferrier*  
Industrial School, Brandon.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
CANADA





DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
CANADA

OFFICE OF THE  
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL  
OTTAWA

July 25th. 1919.

MEMORANDUM

Hon. Mr. Meighen -

In 1893 the Red Deer Industrial school was established at Red Deer, Alberta, and has been conducted since that time under the auspices of the Methodist Church. There are 1140 acres of land in connection with the institution. This school was designed to take care of the Methodist pupilage in the northern part of the Province of Alberta - the Hobbema, Edmonton and Saddle Lake Agencies. The school has not prospered as it should, due principally it is said to two facts: first, its location is too far distant from the recruiting grounds, second, mismanagement in periods on the part of the church authorities.

Some two years' ago the Methodist Church had under consideration the question of closing the school and establishing some smaller boarding schools adjacent to the reserves from which they draw their largest number of pupils. This scheme, however, was never carried out.

The buildings are all in a dilapidated condition and previous to the war we had under consideration the erection of new buildings or extensive repairs to the existing ones. The Church, however, now represents that it is impossible for them to continue the work on the present location and they wish to remove to a site near the city of Edmonton, which would be almost in the centre of their constituency. The establishment of a new school in this location will entail a large expenditure in the purchase of land, the price of which in the vicinity of Edmonton is very high, and in the erection of modern buildings.

The proposal of the church is that the Indian agencies above referred to should be canvassed with a view to securing the support of the Indians to the proposition, by way of a definite promise to send their children to the school, and that the Department should dispose of the Red Deer property and also the property in connection with the old McDougall Orphanage at Morley on the Stony Reserve, purchase a new site this year and proceed with the erection of the buildings at as early a date as possible.

The matter has been discussed with me by the representatives of the Methodist Church, and I wish now to lay the proposal before you. I am not yet convinced of the advisability of embarking on this scheme, I think the matter should be very carefully considered. The suggestion has been made that an informal commission, on which the Department would be represented, should meet at Edmonton during the first week in September. This, I think, would be the proper course to take and I would propose to have Mr. Graham represent the Department. In passing I may mention that Mr. Graham is disposed to favour the removal to the vicinity of Edmonton. We must not, however, take any preliminary steps that would involve us in any obligation until fully satisfied as to the merits of the proposition. At the same time the

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 1C, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES  
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-2-

matter is one of grave importance to the church.

With your approval I shall arrange for the meeting of this commission at a date that will be convenient to Mr. Graham.

*Duncan Chitt*

Deputy Superintendent General.

*I have no  
objection to Mr  
Graham meeting Chitt  
if he can. I am not  
disposed however to favor  
the proposed at present  
Mr. G. met to be so  
advised  
Chitt*

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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July 31st. 1919.

Dear Mr. Ferrier,

Your letter of the 11th. July suggesting the appointment of a commission to consider the Red Deer industrial school problem has been brought to my attention. I have already submitted this matter to the Minister for his consideration and expect a decision within a few days.

Yours sincerely,

*Duncan Chisholm*  
Deputy Superintendent General.

*AGM*  
*sel*  
Rev. T. Ferrier,

Principal,

Brandon Industrial School,

Brandon, Man.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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CANADA



August 6, 1919.

Dear Mr. Graham -

Referring to the proposed change in the site of the industrial school from Red Deer to Edmonton, I recently received a letter from Mr. Ferrier in which he stated that he wished a commission appointed representing the Methodist Church and the Department to visit the reserves that form the constituency of the school, and also to select a site in the vicinity of Edmonton. It was suggested that this commission should meet at Edmonton during the first week of September. I immediately placed the whole matter before the Minister suggesting that you should represent the Department on this commission, and that it should meet at a date that would be convenient to you. In a brief way I laid before the Minister the reasons submitted by the church why a change in the location of the school should be made, and in reply he stated that he had no objections to your meeting the authorities of the Methodist Church, but that he was not disposed to favour the project at present, and that he wished you to be so informed.

I myself am not fully convinced of the need and desirability of embarking upon the large expenditure that would be entailed to institute a new school at Edmonton, but it is advisable to hear all representations that can be made by the church, and also to obtain your views after you have had an opportunity of carefully considering the matter. The question will then be presented to the Minister for his further consideration. You will no doubt hear from Mr. Ferrier in the near future, and I hope you will be able to spare the time to look into the question with the committee selected by the Church authorities.

Yours very truly,

*James H. Stewart*

Deputy Superintendent General.

W. M. Graham, Esq.,  
Commissioner,  
Regina, Sask.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

PUBLIC ARCHIVES  
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CANADA



116818-1B.

August 6, 1919.

Dear Mr. Ferrier -

In further reference to your letter of the 11th ultimo, regarding the commission to consider the Red Deer School problem, I beg to state that it is considered advisable that you should confer with Mr. Commissioner Graham, at Regina, who will represent the Department and fix a date suitable to him and the members of your committee. I am writing Mr. Graham today on the subject.

Yours very truly,

*[Handwritten signature]*

Deputy Superintendent General.

Rev. T. Ferrier,  
Principal,

Brandon Industrial School,  
Brandon, Man.

*[Handwritten signature]*

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 1C, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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DEPARTMENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
CANADA

OFFICE OF THE  
DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT GENERAL  
OTTAWA

October 8th. 1919.

MEMORANDUM

Hon. Mr. Meighen -

528924

I beg to submit herewith a report received from Commissioner Graham dated 19th. September on the project of removing the industrial school conducted by the Methodist Church at present located at Red Deer to a location to be chosen at Edmonton. In this connection I would refer you to my memorandum of July 25th. last and to my letter to Commissioner Graham of August 6th. In the letter you will note that I followed your directions and informed Mr. Graham you were not disposed to favour the project at present. Notwithstanding that fact Mr. Graham has reported in favour of the change.

He condemns unreservedly the buildings at Red Deer and says they are simply unfit for habitation. He states that there is no doubt in his mind that Edmonton is the proper place for an industrial school and not Red Deer, and he finds the property which had been selected by the Church authorities, and upon which they have an option, is admirably adapted for the purposes of the school.

I am now pleased to recommend that the change take place in the interests of this institution, and would propose to purchase the property from funds provided by Parliament for the educational work of the Methodist Church among the Indians. It will probably cost us \$70,000.00 to erect a new building, but as against the total outlay, both for land and buildings, we have assets that will be worth at least \$60,000.00. We own 1500 acres near the Stony Reserve, Morley for which we have been offered \$15.00 an acre, and we ought to get at least \$40,000.00 out of the Red Deer property. I would like your authority to investigate the title to this property and proceed with its purchase if that is satisfactory. The option expires on the 15th. inst.

*Duncan Scott*  
Deputy Superintendent General.

*Oct 31/19  
Returned  
from the Minister  
without  
direction.  
No action  
to be taken  
at present*

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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Rev. T. Ferrier  
Superintendent of  
Methodist Schools and Hospitals  
in Canada

Brandon, Man., October 18th, 19 19.

#2.

our children are better out of doors than in school." "

*For action  
see telegram  
above page  
JES*

I have wired you several times regarding the Edmonton proposition. I also wired the Minister. The situation is very critical. It would be a great pity to miss the opportunity of buying the land in question. I have been sending and receiving wire messages from Edmonton daily holding the option for a few days longer. If the decision is not made to-day I am afraid that Monday will be too late. A larger offer is being made for the land. No mistake can be made by the Department in purchasing this land, and if we let this opportunity pass I do not think that any suitable site can be purchased for less than one hundred dollars an acre.

I trust the whole matter will be settled to-day.

Yours sincerely,

T. Ferrier

Industrial School, Brandon.

TF/GF

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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116818-1

Rev. T. Ferrier  
Superintendent of  
Methodist Indian Schools and Hospitals  
in Canada

1-10-19  
2-1-19

Brandon, Man., October 18th, 19 19.

528481

Mr. Duncan C. Scott,  
Deputy Superintendent General,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Scott,-

I enclose you a paper clipping from Cochrane, Alberta. Mr. Miller has evidently succeeded in growing a garden at Morley. I also give you a quotation from his letter regarding the attendance at school. If this is a correct interpretation of the situation something ought to be done by the Department to compel the children to attend school.

"Miss Court has, during the last week, kept the Indian school open for business; but has yet to see the first pupil and this in spite of the fact that several of the parents had promised me to send their children. Miss Court too is much liked by the Indian children and Mrs. Stocken, the clerk's wife who was for many years a teacher in Indian schools declares that the children made great progress under her instruction. In trying to find out the cause of the non-attendance I have at last got the right clue I believe. An Indian put it to me like this:

He said, 'For many years we have always had two stores here, and the competition kept the prices down. Last year one of the stores was closed to make a place for the school. Since that every time we go to the store we find things are dearer than before. We don't like this and want to have two stores again. But while the school is running there is no place for another store. We would sooner have another store than a school. Education doesn't do our children any good and we think

Extract on File 116861-1  
Morley Day school file



Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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November 3, 1919.

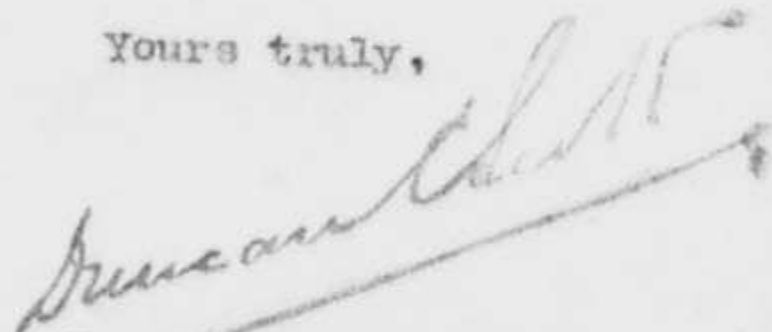
Dear Mr. Ferrier,-

We have not arrived at any decision with reference to the Red Deer proposition, and at the present juncture it is impossible for me to say more than that.

Yours truly,



Rev. T. Ferrier,  
Principal,  
Brandon Industrial School,  
Brandon, Man.




Deputy Superintendent General

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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CANADA



 T. Ferrier  
Superintendent of Methodist  
Indian Schools and Hospitals in Canada



Brandon, <sup>Man.</sup> November 5th, 1919.

(COPY)

Hon. Arthur Meighen,  
Minister of the Interior,  
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Meighen,-

Replying to yours of October 31st,-

There is so much involved in the proposition of changing the site of the Red Deer Institute to Edmonton and it being of such vital importance to the Methodist Church and our educational work in Northern Alberta, I feel it my duty to have a personal interview with you before the final decision is made.

I expect to be in Ottawa either on the 14th or 17th. Would it be possible for me to have an interview with you on either of these dates? If not, would you kindly fix a date after the 14th that would be suitable to you?

Yours respectfully,

Industrial School, Brandon.

TF/GF

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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Rev. T. Ferrier  
Superintendent of Methodist  
Indian Schools and Hospitals in Canada



Brandon, Nov 5, 19  
Hon.

Dear Mr. Lott

I enclose you a copy  
of a letter I am sending  
the Minister to-day. In answer  
to one he sent me.

If not too much trouble  
I would like to have his  
reply by wire as I will  
be in Winnipeg Saturday next  
& would go on from there if  
satisfactory

Yours sincerely  
T. Ferrier

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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# Great North Western Telegraph Company of Canada

Exclusive Connection with the  
WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH CO.

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to all the World

FORM 2

CONDITIONS.—Approved by Board of Railway Commissioners for Canada, under Order 162, dated March 20, 1916.  
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No employee of the Company shall vary the foregoing.

Z. A. LASH, President.

GEO. D. PERRY, General Manager.

COUNTER No.	TIME FILED	SENT No.	SENT BY	RECEIVED BY	TIME SENT	CHECK

Send the following message, subject to the above Terms, which are hereby agreed to.

Ottawa, Nov. 11th. 1919.

Rev. T. Ferrier,  
Principal,  
Brandon Industrial School,  
Brandon, Man.

Minister's movements are uncertain and I can  
get no definite assurance that he will be in Ottawa  
on seventeenth. In fact think it unlikely.

Charge I. A.

Duncan C. Scott.

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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*file*

**J. T. Ferrier**  
President of Methodist  
Indian Schools and Hospitals in Canada

Brandon, November 11th, 1919.  
*Man.*

Mr. Duncan C. Scott,  
Deputy Superintendent General,  
Department of Indian Affairs,  
Ottawa, Canada.

Dear Mr. Scott,-

I have word from the Minister that he will  
not be in his office until on or after the 25th  
of the month, so I am making my programme to be  
there about the 27th.

Yours sincerely,

*J. Ferrier*  
Industrial School, Brandon.

TF/GF

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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# INDIAN WORK ON PRAIRIES MAKES GOOD PROGRESS

**Rev. Thompson Ferrier Tells  
of Methodist Church  
Educational Work**

Rev. Thompson Ferrier, superintendent of Indian Missions for the Methodist church of Canada, who occupied the pulpit of McDougall Methodist church on Sunday morning has left the city for British Columbia where he will carry on the good work of supervising and directing the work among the Indians of that province. Before leaving Edmonton, Mr. Ferrier was interviewed by The Journal and gave some interesting facts regarding the educational work which is being carried on by the Methodist church among the Indians of the dominion. Special reference was made to the program in Alberta and with the opening of the large new Alberta institute just north of the city a bright outlook was prophesied for the future of this work in the province.

## Have Waiting List

"The educational work in British Columbia and in Ontario is much more advanced in its character among the Indian people than on the prairies," said Mr. Ferrier. In all our schools in the two provinces mentioned we have a waiting list which has not been the experience in any of the large industrial schools conducted on the prairies.

The results of educating Indian boys and girls, on the whole, is very encouraging and satisfactory, most of them proving themselves to be good citizens and an asset to the state. About 5,000 young Indians from the various schools and reserves went overseas, and the great bulk gave an excellent account of themselves. Forty went from the Brandon institute alone, and ten of these are "buried where the popples grow."

Mr. Ferrier makes his headquarters at Brandon, Manitoba, and in the course of his duties is called upon to visit all parts of Canada. Next Sunday he expects to be at Queen Charlotte Islands and on the following Sunday at Port Simpson. After that he will turn eastward, reaching Ottawa somewhere around April 1st.

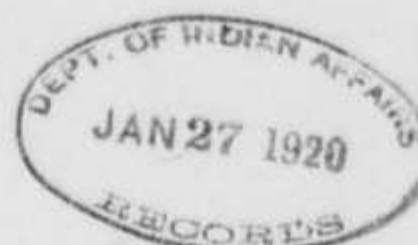
## New Era Appears

With the opening of the new Edmonton institute a new era appears to open for the work of the Methodist church among the Indians of this province, according to the superintendent of missions. The Hume farm of 855 acres, which was purchased for this purpose is an ideal one and the splendid new \$100,000 school, which will be erected some time next year is expected to look after the wants of the province in this direction for a long time to come.

"Indian boys and girls will come to the institute from the constituencies and reserves at Hobema, Duffield, White Fish Lake, Good Fish Lake, Saddle Lake and other places," said Mr. Ferrier. There will be accommodation for about 125 children and staff of twelve workers. The children are sent in at the age of seven and are kept until they are eighteen. The girls are taught all manner of housework while the boys are taught farming, gardening, carpenter work and the care of all kinds of stock. In addition to this of course a good general education is given. The half day system is followed in all our schools. That is, the children spend half a day in the class room and half a day in one of the industrial departments."

## Purchase of Hume Farm

Mr. Ferrier appeared to be particularly well satisfied with the purchase of the Hume farm. He stated that a large number of farms had been inspected before the decision was finally arrived at to buy the Hume acreage. Located as it is part way between Edmonton and St. Albert in close proximity to the Sturgeon river with the E.D. & B.C. railway running through the property, its location is an ideal one.



531759

THE EDMONTON JOURNAL

MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1920

Indian Affairs. School Files.  
(RG 10, Volume 6350, File 753-1, part 1)

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